(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Following the signing of the Simla Agreement in 1972, which commits India and Pakistan to resolve all issues bilaterally, the UN Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) has no role in Jammu and Kashmir. Government have communicated this to the UN but have not formally requested their withdrawal.

Indian help to set up a University in Senegal

1019. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Senegal Government has sought India's help to set up a University there; and

(b) if so, the action taken, thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The President of Senegal, during, his visit to India in October, 2003 discussed the question of India's assistance to Senegal in the field of education.

(b) The Senegalese Government is yet to make a firm proposal in this regard.

U.S. restrictions on export of high technology items

1020. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that USA has not lifted restrictions on export of high technology items to India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts made by Government to have the restrictions removed at the earliest; and

(d) the present status of negotiations between the two countries in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) There is, at present, no regulatory prohibition on export of U.S. high technology items to India, though policy-related restrictions continue to remain in place on export of certain categories of "dual use" goods and technologies to India.

(c) and (d) The Government is engaged in a dialogue with the United States to develop, expand and facilitate bilateral high technology commerce. The two countries have established a bilateral High Technology Cooperation Group that held its second meeting in New Delhi on November 20, 2003. This is the first such group that the United States has set up with any country. The Group discussed, *inter alia,* regulatory and promotional issues related to enhancing bilateral trade in high technology, including in "dual use" goods and technologies. As a result of these discussions and political dialogue between the two countries, there has been an improvement in transfer of "dual use" goods and technologies to India.

Additional Ambassador level official at Indian Embassy in USA

1021. SHRI RAJEEA/ SHUKLA:

DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in addition to the Indian Ambassador in USA, another official of the same rank is operating in USA;

(b) if so, what specific role has been assigned to him particularly in regard to NRIs and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) in the USA; and

(c) the details of the action already taken and proposed to be taken by him in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) there is only one official designated as the Ambassador of India to USA. However, two officers are designated in the rank of 'Ambassador' for functional reasons, which includes Permanent Representative of India to UN, New York, and special Adviser to the Permanent Mission of India and Ambassador-at-Large to NRIs/PIOs based in New York.